
Winter 2011

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**MCC Title IV Code
002872**

**MCC TAP Code
2180**

**Brighton Campus
Financial Aid Office
Monday – Friday
8:45 A.M. – 4:45 P.M.**

**Phone
585-292-2050
Fax
585-292-3840**

**Damon City Campus
Registration & Financial
Services
Monday-Friday
9:00 A.M. – 5:00 P.M.**

**Phone
585-262-1670
Fax
585-262-1733**

**MCC Financial Aid Web page
www.monroecc.edu/depts/finaid**

**E-mail
financialaid@monroecc.edu**

2011-2012 FINANCIAL AID APPLICATION REMINDERS

Here are few reminders for students and parents for applying for Financial Aid for the 2011-2012 academic year:

- **File early**, as soon as the student's and/or parent's federal tax returns are completed. *Any student who plans to live in the Residence Halls and wants to have their financial aid credited towards their cost must apply for financial aid by March 15, 2011.*
- **Get a PIN.** Both students and parents should have a financial aid PIN, which will allow them to sign the On-line FAFSA electronically and to make corrections to the FAFSA on-line. For more info go to www.pin.ed.gov.
- **File On-line.** Students can apply for both Federal and NYS Financial Aid programs via the Internet at www.fafsa.ed.gov. On-line is faster, more efficient, and more accurate than using the paper application process.
- **Keep copies of all of your 2010 income documents.** (Federal & State tax returns, W-2's, Social Security, Unemployment, or Welfare benefits statements)
- **Respond to requests for additional information.** If you delay in submitting requested information to the Financial Aid Office, you can expect that the processing of your financial aid will be delayed as well.

FEDERAL TAX DATA RETRIEVAL FOR FAFSA ON THE WEB

Beginning with the 2010-11 academic year, the U.S. Department of Education and the IRS developed a new online tool to allow applicants to import their income and tax data directly from the IRS and transfer the information to the FAFSA on the Web.

The IRS Data Retrieval Tool is available to students and parents filing their FAFSA on the web.

To use the IRS Data Retrieval Tool, applicants and parents must have:

- A valid SSN and Federal Student Aid PIN.
- Completed a 2010 federal tax return.
- No change in marital status since 12/31/2010

Students and families that file their federal tax returns electronically would be able to access their tax data within a couple of weeks. Students and families that file paper federal tax returns would be able to access their tax data within several of weeks of filing.

Additionally, students and parents can use the IRS Data Retrieval Tool to update their 2011-12 FAFSA if they originally filed the FAFSA with estimated income information.

FINANCIAL AID AND COURSEWORK THAT DOES NOT APPLY TO YOUR DEGREE PROGRAM

Both Federal and State regulations stipulate that students cannot be awarded financial aid for course work that is not applicable to the student's current degree program. For example, if a student is enrolled in a total of 12 credit hours for a semester and 6 of those credit hours are not applicable to the student's degree program, the student will only be eligible to receive financial aid for the courses that are applicable to the student's degree program.

There are a couple of exceptions to this regulation. One is that remedial course work (up to 30 semester hours for Federal Aid Programs) is exempt. Another exception is that students can enroll in courses that do not apply to their degree program if they are already enrolled in 12 credit hours that do apply to their degree program.

If you are unsure if a course does or does not apply to your degree program, you should review your program requirements in the *MCC College Catalog and Student Handbook* or meet with an academic advisor.

REPEATED COURSES & YOUR FINANCIAL AID

Many students do not realize that repeating courses can have an adverse effect on their financial aid eligibility. If a student retakes a course in which they have received a passing grade (D- or higher), the course cannot be counted as part of the student's course load which determines the student's eligibility for state financial aid programs.

However, there are a few exceptions to this rule:

1. A passing grade is received for a course, but a higher grade is necessary to meet the degree requirements. i.e. A student receives a grade of "D" in FIN 200, however the program requires that the student has a grade of "C" or higher in order to graduate from that program.
2. A passing grade is received for a course, but a higher grade is necessary to take the next course in the sequence. i.e. A student receives a grade of "D" in FIN 201, however the program requires that the student has a grade of "C" or higher in order to take FIN 202.
3. A student must take and pass two associated courses concurrently and a passing grade is received in only one of the courses. i.e. Course FIN 200 requires that concurrently take FIN 201 and the student receives a "B" in FIN 200 and an "F" in FIN 201.
4. When a course may be repeated and credit earned toward the degree each time it is taken, such as physical education courses.

Students who have questions regarding repeating coursework and maintaining their financial aid eligibility, should review pages 35-38 of the *MCC 2010-2011 College Catalog and Student Handbook* or contact the MCC Financial Aid Office.

LOAN ENTRANCE COUNSELING

Students who are borrowing a student loan at MCC for the first time are required to complete a Loan Entrance Counseling Session. To meet this requirement, students must complete the loan entrance counseling session online at www.monroecc.edu/depts/finaid. From there click on the "Loan Entrance Counseling" link on the navigation bar.

Once the student completes the online Loan Entrance Counseling, they should print the confirmation form at the end and keep a copy for their records. Students who do not complete the Loan Entrance Counseling, will not receive a Federal Direct Student Loan.

Do you plan on attending MCC or another college or university for the 2011 Summer, 2011 Fall, and/or the 2012 Spring Semesters?

If so, then file your 2011-2012 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) now at: www.fafsa.ed.gov

The Financial Aid Lab is also available to assist you with filing your 2011-12 FAFSA. Check the MCC Financial Aid Web Page for dates and times. www.monroecc.edu/depts/finaid

